

Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five (PDG B-5) Competition (HHS-2018-ACF-OCC-TP-1379)

Technical Assistance
for State Applicants
September 18, 2018

Welcome

PDG B-5 Competition

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The Departments of Health and Human Services and Education (collectively, the Departments) are holding a competition for:

Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five (PDG B-5) Initiative, CFDA Number 93.434



Pre-Presentation Facts...

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- ❑ During the presentation all phone lines will be placed on mute to avoid feedback during the presentation.
- ❑ There will not be a Q&A period, as all information needed is within the Funding Opportunity Announcement itself.
- ❑ A link to the PowerPoint slides for today's presentation is posted at:
<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/occ/resource/pdg-b-5-initiative>.
- ❑ Here is the link to the Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) itself:
<https://ami.grantsolutions.gov/HHS-2018-ACF-OCC-TP-1379>.
- ❑ Please return to this website at the end of September if you are interested in listening to a recording or reviewing a transcript of today's session.
- ❑ Thank you for participating in today's Webinar.

Agenda

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- **A Walk through the FOA Sections: Highlights**
 - ▣ **Eligibility, Select Definitions, Purposes**
 - ▣ **Five Required Activities for Funding**
 - ▣ **Needs Assessment/Strategic Plan Discussion**
 - ▣ **Program Requirement/Disqualification Factor**
 - ▣ **“State Entity”**
 - ▣ **Award Information**
 - ▣ **Program Approach**
 - ▣ **Additional Sections Requiring Attention**
 - ▣ **Submission Deadline**
 - ▣ **Project Description and Criteria Overview and PD Elements**

Agenda

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- **A Walk through the FOA Sections: Highlights (continued)**
 - **Criteria Reviewer Considerations and Elements**
 - **Criteria - Budget Information Required**
 - **Bonus Points: Activity One**
 - **Priority Preference Points**
 - **Page Limitations and Content**
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 - **Actual Award Amounts**
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Eligible Applicants

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- All 50 States
- The District of Columbia
- The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico
- The United States Virgin Islands
- Guam
- American Samoa
- The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Note: Tribes are not eligible applicants, but should be included in State planning and assessment.

Definition of “B-5 Early Childhood State System”

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- Refers to core ECE programs, including CCDF and State CC, (center-based, FCC, informal care providers); EHS and HS; the MIECHV Program and other State/locally funded HV services, Part C and Section 619; State pre-k, and programs funded by Title I of ESEA.
- Includes a wide range of ECE programs and services that strengthen, engage, stabilize families and their infants and young children by targeting health and wellness: Medicaid, CHIP, Title V MCHB Programs, Healthy Start, CACFP, WIC, and the infrastructure components that support these programs and services.

Definition of “Mixed Delivery System”

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- As defined by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA); means a system of early childhood care and education services that are delivered through a combination of programs, providers, and settings, such as Head Start, licensed family and center-based child care programs, public schools, and other community-based organizations, that is supported by a combination of public and private funds.

Definition of “Services”

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- Refers to children’s developmental supports across a range of domains, including cognitive, social-emotional, physical, language, literacy, and approaches to learning, as well as nutritional, mental, and behavioral health;
- Plays a role in providing support for parents including engaging parents as key partners and promoting parental knowledge and choices;
- Improves the quality of and families’ access to the early childhood care and education supports that are needed to build the foundation for ongoing growth, learning, and development.

Definition of “State Advisory Council (SAC) On Early Childhood Education and Care”

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- Taken directly from HS Act of 2007, the Governor of each “State” is to designate or establish a council to serve as the SAC for children from birth to school entry; overall responsibility of the SAC is to lead the development or enhancement of a high-quality system of early childhood care and education that ensures statewide coordination, alignment, and collaboration among the wide range of early childhood programs and services in the State, including child care, Head Start, IDEA, preschool, and infants.

Purposes of the PDG B-5 Initiative

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- Develop, update, or implement a strategic plan that facilitates collaboration and coordination among existing programs of early childhood care and education in a mixed delivery system across the State;
- More efficiently use existing Federal, State, local, and non-governmental resources to align and strengthen the delivery of existing programs;

Purposes of the PDG B-5 Initiative

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- Encourage partnerships among the wide range of ECE programs and service partners that make up the B-5 Early Childhood State System;
- Expand parental choice and knowledge about existing programs; and
- Enhance school readiness for children from low-income and disadvantaged families, including during children's transition into elementary school by sharing best practices between and among ECE providers.

Five Required Activities

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- *Activity One:* Conduct or update a thorough statewide birth through five needs assessment of the availability and quality of existing programs/services in the State.
- *Activity Two:* Develop or update a strategic plan, based on needs assessment results, that recommends collaboration, coordination, and quality improvement activities among existing programs.
- *Activity Three:* Maximize parental choice and knowledge; promote and increase involvement by parents and family members in the development and transition of their children.

Five Required Activities

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- *Activity Four:* Share best practices among early childhood care and education program providers in the State to increase collaboration and efficiency of services, including to improve transitions from such programs to elementary school.
- *Activity Five:* **After activities one and two are completed,** improve the overall quality of early childhood care and education programs in the State.

Note: Work on Activities Three and Four can begin at the start of the grant period.

State with Existing Statewide B-5 Needs Assessment or Strategic Plan

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- Submit description of these updated items as part of your response to Activity One Project Description/Criteria.
- Peer reviewers will score the needs assessment and strategic plan descriptions, proposed as completed.
- If selected for award, the State will be asked upon award to send a copy of the actual assessment/strategic plan to the Departments for review and approval.
- If the documents are not approved, the State will be instructed to go back and do more work, as needed, before being allowed to spend funds on Activity Five.

States Needing to Develop or Update Statewide B-5 Assessment/Strategic Plan

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- Address Activity One Project Description and Criteria section requirements.
- Develop or update your Statewide B-5 needs assessment and/or strategic plan until completed, and follow the separate submission and review process before beginning to spend funds on Activity Five.

Program Requirement/ Disqualification Factor

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- The applicant must submit a letter from the Governor on official letterhead, designating the State entity that will have responsibility for execution of this grant.
- This letter should include a description of why the State entity chosen is best suited to:
 - ▣ successfully oversee and manage the grant, and
 - ▣ facilitate collaboration and coordination among the full range of programs, services, and funding streams,
 - ▣ thereby leading to the improvement of an early childhood care and education mixed delivery system serving children from birth through age five.

“State Entity”

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- In addition to being a State government agency, a “State entity” can also be a non-profit, nongovernmental entity ... so long as the Governor also provides the required description of why the State entity chosen is best suited to successfully oversee and manage the grant, and facilitate collaboration and coordination among the full range of programs, services, and funding streams, thereby leading to the improvement of an early childhood care and education mixed delivery system serving children from birth through age five.

Award Information

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- Award Floor = \$500,000
- Award Ceiling = \$15,000,000*
- Match Requirement = minimum of 30%
- Project Period = 12 months
- *Specific to funding for Activity Five, States must seek funding appropriate to the anticipated grant time remaining after the statewide birth through five needs assessment and related strategic plan that meet the descriptions and requirements in this FOA have been completed, submitted, and approved by the Departments.

Program Approach

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- Describe current statewide mixed delivery system
- Needs Assessment/Strategic Plan Options
 - States that already have a thorough statewide B-5 needs assessment and related strategic plan
 - States that do not already have a thorough statewide B-5 needs assessment and related strategic plan
- Invite State innovation in planning, designing, enhancing, implementing, and evaluating
- Strongly encourage meaningful engagement at all stages with full range of stakeholders/partners at the local community and State levels

Program Approach: ECE Stakeholders

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Encourage Including:

- Custodial and non-custodial parents, and/or parent council or association representatives;
- Representatives of relevant community partners, advocacy organizations, think tanks, philanthropic organizations, and business or public/private partners, and any and all other partners deemed appropriate;
- State and local early learning councils, if applicable;
- Program directors and staff across child-serving agencies and programs, including Head Start, child care, preschool and K-12 school districts;

Program Approach: ECE Stakeholders

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Also encourage including:

- Medicaid;
- CHIP; WIC; CACFP;
- Title V Maternal and Child Health Program;
- Healthy Start;
- Special education and early intervention;
- Health, mental health, and child welfare;
- Representatives of Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and urban Indian organizations within the State; and
- Others, as deemed appropriate.

Program Approach: Additional Areas of Flexibility

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- Encouraged to:
 - Incorporate trauma-informed approaches to counter the impact of trauma and adverse childhood experiences;
 - Consider how best to improve the training/experience of State B-5 early childhood care and education providers;
 - Include related activities required by 2014 CCDBG reauthorization (e.g., QRIS improvements, linking to/taking advantage of new national web site: www.childcare.gov, etc.) when considering how to spend funding under all Activities.

Additional Sections Requiring Attention

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- Post-Award State Reporting Requirements – page 6
- All Definitions – pages 6-9
- Future Eligibility – pages 9-10
- Additional Information on Awards – pages 11-12
- Cost Sharing/Matching Requirements – pages 12-13
- Application Submission Information – pages 15-23;
also pages 38-46
- Federal Award Administration Information and Other
Information – pages 53-58

Submission Deadline

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**Application Deadline is on or before 11:59 pm EST
November 06, 2018.**

- Electronic applications submitted to www.Grants.gov after 11:59 p.m., ET, on November 06, 2018, as indicated by a dated and time-stamped email from www.Grants.gov, will be disqualified from competitive review and from funding under this announcement.

Project Description and Criteria Overview

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- Applicants must prepare the project description statement in accordance with the instructions given, while being aware of the specified evaluation criteria in *Section V.1. Criteria*.
- The text options (pages 23-37) give a broad overview of what the project description should include.
- The evaluation criteria (pages 46-51) identify the measures that will be used to evaluate applications.

Project Description Elements

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- Table of Contents
- Project Summary/Abstract
- Expected Outcomes
- Approach
- Organizational Capacity and Management
- State B-5 Mixed Delivery System and Vision Statement
- B-5 Statewide Needs Assessment Plan
- B-5 Statewide Strategic Plan
- Maximizing Parental Choice and Knowledge
- Sharing Best Practices Among B-5 Providers

Project Description Elements

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- ☐ Improving Overall Quality of Programs, Providers, and Services
- ☐ Project Timeline and Milestones
- ☐ Program Performance Evaluation Plan
- ☐ Logic Model
- ☐ Project Sustainability Plan
- ☐ Dissemination Plan
- ☐ Third Party Agreements
- ☐ Plan for Oversight of Funds
- ☐ Project Budget and Budget Justification

Criteria – Reviewer Considerations

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- With the exception of the FOA, relevant statutes, and regulations, reviewers will not access, or review, any materials that are not part of the application documents.
- This includes information accessible on websites via hyperlinks that are referenced, or embedded, in the application. Though an application may include web links, or embedded hyperlinks, reviewers will not review this information as it is not considered to be part of the application documents.

Criteria – Reviewer Considerations

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- Peer Reviewers will use the criteria to evaluate applications submitted under the PDG B-5 competition.
 - ▣ The maximum score for all the criteria is 100 points.
 - ▣ The maximum score for each criterion is indicated in parentheses.
 - ▣ There are an additional 5 bonus points available having to do with content in Activity One.
 - ▣ There are an additional 10 points available to select applicants.

Criteria

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- Approach - Activity One: B-5 Needs Assessment
- Approach - Activity Two: B-5 Strategic Plan
- Approach - Activity Three: Maximizing Parent Knowledge and Choice
- Approach - Activity Four: Sharing Best Practices
- Approach - Activity Five: Improving Overall Quality
- Organizational Capacity and Management

Criteria

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- State B-5 Mixed Delivery System Description and Vision Statement
- Timeline
- Program Performance Evaluation Plan
- Logic Model
- Sustainability Plan
- Budget and Budget Justification
- Bonus Points

Criteria - Budget Information Required

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- The budget and budget justification narrative provide a detailed description of how the State plans to use Federal PDG B-5 grant funds and funds from other sources to support projects under the State Plan.
- The budget narrative should be of sufficient scope and detail for the Departments to determine if the costs are necessary, reasonable, and allowable.

Criteria: Additional Budget Information Required

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- The applicant is required to:
 - Specify the amount projected to be spent on each of the required statutory Activities One through Five;
 - Indicate the amount of their grant funding needed to conduct the program performance evaluation plan;
 - Indicate the amount of their grant funding that will be used to support related technical assistance activities leading to successful implementation of grant requirements; and
 - Include travel costs to send at least 4 individuals to Washington, D.C. to attend a 3-day PDG B-5 grantee meeting.

Bonus Points re: Activity One

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- The reviewer will determine if the applicant has proposed a meaningful plan in their Activity One needs assessment to measure:
 - ▣ the unduplicated number of children being served in each of their existing programs, and
 - ▣ the unduplicated number of children awaiting services in each awaiting services in each of their existing programs.

PDG B-5 Priority Preference Points

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- Applicants that have not previously received Race to the Top - Early Learning Challenge (RTT-ELC) or Preschool Development Grant (PDG) funding and that obtain a score of 70 or better will receive 10 bonus points, since they have not benefited from prior federal RTT-ELC or PDG funding.

Page Limitations and Content

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- The application should be submitted in two files with the total submission limited to 75 pages for all the components in the two files.
 - ▣ File 1 (Project Description) - no more than 65 pages suggested.
 - ▣ File 2 (Appendices) – no more than 8 pages suggested.
- Pages exceeding 75 will be removed from the application and will not be reviewed.

Application Review and Selection

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- No grant award will be made to an applicant that does not have a DUNS number and an active registration at SAM.
- The Departments shall review all applications to determine if the program requirements have been satisfied and will confirm that the applicant, as of the date of the application's submission, has a mixed delivery system in place.

Application Review and Selection

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- Results of the competitive objective peer review are taken into consideration by the Departments in the selection of projects for funding. (Scores and rankings are only one element used in the award decision-making process.)
- The Departments may elect not to fund applicants with management or financial problems that would indicate an inability to successfully complete the proposed project.

Application Review and Selection

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- Applications may be funded in whole or in part. Successful applicants may be funded at an amount lower than that requested.
- No State with a score below 70 will be eligible to receive a PDG B-5 grant award.
- All States, starting with the highest score and moving to the lowest score above 69, will be awarded a grant until all funds are awarded.

Actual Award Amounts

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- The actual award amounts will be determined by:
 - ▣ the Departments' evaluation of the applicant's rationale and the supporting evidence that the activities can reasonably be accomplished within the one-year grant project period, and
 - ▣ the number of applications received and the amounts requested.
- If necessary, the Departments will work with States that are eligible for an award to make any adjustments before finalizing PDG B-5 awards.

Final Advice

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- **Applicants are strongly encouraged to read the entire funding opportunity announcement (FOA) carefully and observe the application formatting requirements listed in *Section IV.2. Content and Form of Application Submission*.**
- **Do not wait until the last minute to submit your application! Late applications will not be reviewed**
Application Deadline is on or before 11:59 pm EST
November 06, 2018.

Thank You

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The Departments thank you for considering participation in the 2018 PDG B-5 Competition.

